

have their lovers and sweethearts and those of kindred habits and training are preferable. Not that there are wanting social attractions here but social and other characteristics are sometimes too strong to assimilate with new conditions rapidly enough to meet the views of the susceptible youth. Do we want the plain western farmer here? Yes they are just the people we want and we have room for tens of thousands. The states of Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland can absorb more than the number of the scourged western states can furnish us.

The first who come will secure the best bargains because every emigrant who buys a farm adds material value to every contiguous acre.

If any wish to obtain more detailed information and will address me with stamped envelope enclosed I will answer.

I am not in the real estate business, have no land to sell, have no direct interest in emigrants but I wish to see our waste farms inhabited and I wish it to be done by western farmers.

If the Gospel Messenger will publish this letter it might be of advantage to its suffering readers and at least two representatives, discreet and deliberate in their judgements and conclusions, and let them come to any given section, say for instance the county of Bedford which lays against the east base of the Blue Ridge.

Let them come to the county seat, Bedford City, and take temporary quarters at the hotel where living is rich and cheap.

From there they can canvass every section of the county in a week and if possible let them purchase lands as contiguous as possible. They must make the matter of society a subject of special consideration because of the young people of the plague-stricken west. Remember that the tide immigration is setting southward and Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and South Carolina will compete with us in giving them homes.

You ask about the matter of enjoying civil rights and how do the ex-slave-holders treat common people socially, etc.

Every privilege is accorded to every citizen without regard to creed or color,

without let or hindrance, that law or custom can grant. We furnish jails for the lawless, homes for the industrious, and honors for the worthy and everything that civilization offers is given.

The ex-slave holder is either dead or is an extreme back or odd number. As a factor in society or government he is practically eliminated, and his children are mostly becoming lost in the on rushing tide of the incoming generation, and those who do not go to the cities, intermarry with the plain country people and set themselves to the task of bringing up the bright boys and comely girls who are to take up the thread of life when they come to lay it down. For contentment, love of peace, and moderate religioners, the people of this section cannot be excelled by any people in this world.

THE EVILNESS OF MAN'S HEART.

Every Imagination of man's heart is Evil.

We have before us a subject which brings to our minds, the language of our Lord Jesus Christ when he said, "O ye hypocrites; ye draw near to me with your lips but your heart is far from me." How often do we see men and women professing Christ with their lips and proving by their daily walks and conversations that their hearts are far from him. Indeed some will get out in the week time and curse and swear and take God's name in vain; and ask them and they will say that they are church members and even deacons in the church. Now how true is the text. The very imaginations of man's heart is evil. Then again we have seen men and women who profess Godliness, who prove by their daily walks that they are not what they profess. Now some will say that brother A or brother B is a good Christian, but remember that "Everything that glitters is not gold."

By way of illustration we can take brass and rub it up and make it glitter but oh how soon it will return to its original color. Just so with men and women; we may take them down into the water and wash them but if that old, original nature is not changed it will soon return to the old habits. We must remember that our natural hab-

its must be changed before we can serve God. But, one might say you are judging a man. The Lord tells us "that a good tree can't bring forth evil fruit. Neither can an evil tree bring forth good fruit. By their fruit ye shall know them." Then if he knew what he was saying, and we think he did, how can we profess to be a child of God and take his name in vain? How can we be an adulterer and a fornicator, a thief, a murderer, a liar, a drunkard, a swindler, and a thousand other things and say we are a child of God, for our Lord tells us we cannot serve God and mammon. We find there is no halfway grounds; we must be in God's service or in the devil's. But I am sorry to say so. I fear that a great many of the professed children of God are more the children of the Devil than of God. My brother you profess Godliness? If so, for his sake, prove to the world that you possess it. My sister, do you profess to be one of God's hand-maids? If so, show your colors to the world by your pious acts and godly walks. We have seen people who said they were living and doing what Jesus did. But if you will watch them closely you will see them do things God would abhor. You would here them make use of words that the Devil would be ashamed of. The imaginations of that heart is evil. Our Lord tells us "that from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Then if the thought is good the words will be good; if evil, the words will be evil. Can we be a saint on Sunday and a sinner all the week? I answer No. Can we engage in all kind of vice and sin and claim to be the child of God? I answer No. There is but one way to get to heaven and that is by living right up to the words of Jesus. Let us get rid of evil thoughts; let us stand firm on that rock which is Christ Jesus, frame and shape our lives by his, show to the world by our daily walks that we are the Children of God and not the Devil's.

In conclusion, let us watch and pray. Give God the praise and not man. Live to His name's honor and glory, both now and forever more, through Jesus Christ our Lord, amen.

A. O. HUMPHREY.